

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Prior to the present communication, claims 16, 19-24 and 26-45 were pending in the subject application. Each of claims 16, 32, 36, 37, and 39 has been amended herein, while claims 26-31, 34, and 38 have been cancelled and claims 46-52 have been added. Thus, claims 16, 19-24, 32-33, 35-37, and 39-52 remain pending. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added by way of the present amendments. All claims currently pending and under consideration in the present application are shown below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-15. (Cancelled).

16. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating electronic communications management by a system user, the method comprising:

generating a unique reference for the system user, wherein the unique reference is required for identities to access a unique identity belonging to the system user;

permitting access to the unique identity belonging to the system user through the unique reference, wherein the unique identity comprises a plurality of components and the plurality of components are defined to include a plurality of electronic devices;

allowing the system user to alter any one of the plurality of components without altering the unique reference; [[and]]

providing the system user with tools for regulating access to the plurality of components such that only selected known identities have access to selected components of the plurality of components, wherein the selected components of

the plurality components are authorized, by the system user, to accept electronic communications from the selected known identities, wherein the unique reference is required to be used by the selected known identities to communicate with the selected components; and

allowing the system user to select a particular communications delivery method for receiving communications from each of the selected known identities.

17-18. (Cancelled).

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising allowing the system user to select an additional communication delivery method for unknown system users.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising providing live, message, and blocked communication delivery options.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising allowing one of the selected known identities to select a communication transmission mode.

22. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising allowing a first system user to select a communication transmission mode and allowing a second system user to select a communication delivery mode.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising translating the communication transmission mode into the communication delivery mode if required.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising providing video, audio, and text communication delivery modes and communication transmission modes.

25-31. (Cancelled).

32. (Currently Amended) A method for managing electronic communications directed to an identity owner by way of a unique identity that is accessible by a unique reference, wherein the unique identity is associated with a plurality of electronic devices of the identity owner, the method comprising:

receiving, from the identity owner, an indication of a user that is authorized to communicate with the identity owner, wherein the user establishes communication with the identity owner by way of unique identity, and wherein the unique identity utilizes the plurality of electronic devices to facilitate the communication from the user to the identity owner;

storing, in the unique identity, the authorization of the user to communicate with the identity owner;

receiving, from the identity owner, an indication as to which of the plurality of electronic devices are allowed to be utilized in the reception of a communication from the user regardless of a communication mode utilized by the user to establish the communication;

storing, in the unique identity, the indication as to which electronic devices are allowed to receive a communication from the user to the identity owner; ~~and~~

generating the unique reference that is the only reference useable by the user to access the unique identity in order to communicate with the identity owner, wherein accessing the unique identity is the only way for the user to establish a communication with the identity owner, and wherein a communication from the user is routed to the identity owner according to the stored indication as

to which electronic devices are allowed to receive a communication from the user[.];

providing preference controls for allowing an identity owner to select default methods for receiving communications from the user; and

allowing a message sender to control a sent message until a receiver processes the message, such that a sender may delete a sent message prior to processing.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, further comprising maintaining a look-up table for locating unique references at the request of a system user.

34. (Cancelled).

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the receiving an indication as to which of the plurality of electronic devices are allowed to be utilized in the conveyance of a communication from the user includes an indication for two or more electronic devices.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32[[34]], wherein the method comprises allowing the identity owner to select a live communication delivery method.

37. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32[[34]], wherein the method comprises allowing the identity owner to select a message communication delivery method.

38. (Cancelled).

39. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32[[34]], wherein the method comprises allowing selection of a live communication delivery method for a first group of users and a message communication delivery method for a second group of users.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, further comprising allowing the identity owner to block communication delivery from a third group of users.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, further comprising providing the identity owner with a pointer as the associated reference.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising using the pointer to reference a plurality of electronic devices accessible to the identity owner.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, further comprising allowing transmission of a communication from the user in a first mode and delivery of the communication to the identity owner in a second mode.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, further comprising translating the communication from the first mode to the second mode.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the first mode and the second mode comprise one of voice communications, text communications, and video communications modes.

46. (New) One or more computer storage media having computer-executable instructions embodied thereon, that when executed by a computing system having a processor and memory, cause the computing system to perform a method for facilitating electronic communications management by a system user, the method comprising:

generating a unique reference for the system user, wherein the unique reference is required for identities to access a unique identity belonging to the system user;

permitting access to the unique identity belonging to the system user through the unique reference, wherein the unique identity comprises a plurality of components and the plurality of components are defined to include a plurality of electronic devices;

allowing the system user to alter any one of the plurality of components without altering the unique reference;

providing the system user with tools for regulating access to the plurality of components such that only selected known identities have access to selected components of the plurality of components, wherein the selected components of the plurality components are authorized, by the system user, to accept electronic communications from the selected known identities, wherein the unique reference is required to be used by the selected known identities to communicate with the selected components; and

allowing the system user to select a particular communications delivery method for receiving communications from each of the selected known identities.

47. (New) The computer storage media of claim 46, wherein the method further comprises allowing the system user to select an additional communication delivery method for unknown system users.

48. (New) The computer storage media of claim 47, wherein the method further comprises providing live, message, and blocked communication delivery options.

49. (New) The computer storage media of claim 46, wherein the method further comprises allowing one of the selected known identities to select a communication transmission mode.

50. (New) The computer storage media of claim 46, wherein the method further comprises allowing a first system user to select a communication transmission mode and allowing a second system user to select a communication delivery mode.

51. (New) The computer storage media of claim 50, wherein the method further comprises translating the communication transmission mode into the communication delivery mode if required.

52. (New) The computer storage media of claim 51, wherein the method further comprises providing video, audio, and text communication delivery modes and communication transmission modes.